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Notice of release of KS13WGGRC60 (TA5657) stem rust-resistant wheat germ plasm.

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The Agricultural Research Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture and the Kansas Agricultural Experiment Station announce the release of KS13WGGRC60 hard red winter wheat (*Triticum aestivum* L.) germ plasm with resistance to stem rust (*Sr44*) for breeding and experimental purposes.

KS13WGGRC60 is derived from the cross ‘TA3061/TA3647’ F₂, where TA3061 is a Chinese Spring wheat stock monosomic for chromosome 7D (CSM7D) and TA3647 is a disomic wheat–*Thinopyrum intermedium* (Host) Barkworth & D. R. Dewey chromosome addition line having *Th. intermedium* chromosome 7J#1 added to the wheat genome. KS13WGGRC60 has the short 7J#1S arm derived from *Th. intermedium* translocated to the long 7DL wheat arm in the form of a compensating, Robertsonian T7DL·7J#1S translocation. The 7J#1S arm in T7DL·7J#1S has the gene *Sr44* conferring resistance to stem rust (*Puccinia graminis* f. sp. *tritici* Eriks. & E. Henn.) races TTKSK, TTSKT, and TTTSK. The compensating Robertsonian T7DL·7J#1S stock is cytogenetically stable and may be useful in wheat improvement.

Small quantities (3 grams) of seed of KS13WGGRC60 are available upon written request. We request that the appropriate source be given when this germ plasm contributes to research or development of new cultivars. Seed stocks are maintained by the Wheat Genetic and Genomic Resources Center, Throckmorton Plant Sciences Center, Kansas State University, Manhattan, KS 66506.

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Wheat rusts in the United States in 2011.

Wheat stem rust (*Puccinia graminis* f. sp. *tritici*). Wheat stem rust was first reported in mid-April in Texas and Louisiana. Extreme drought conditions in the southern and central plains limited stem rust development and inoculum production for areas further north. Generally, wheat stem rust was found at low levels in scattered plots and fields in the Great Plains, Ohio Valley, and Great Lakes regions in 2011. The exception was northeastern Wisconsin, where 1 to 40% severities were found in commercial soft red winter wheat fields located within 5 miles of Lake Michigan. Race QFCSC was the predominantly identified race from wheat, the only other race identified from wheat was race QCCDC from a collection made in a plot at Crowley, Louisiana (see wheat stem rust observation map, Fig. 1, p. 226-227).

Wheat stem rust was found in areas of Texas, Louisiana, Oklahoma, Kansas, Nebraska, North Dakota, Minnesota, Arkansas, Missouri, Kentucky, Illinois, Indiana, Wisconsin, and Michigan in 2011. Nationally, wheat only incurred a trace loss due to wheat stem rust (Table 3, p. 231, and Table 4, p. 232).

Texas. Wheat stem rust was first reported in southeastern Texas in McNair 701 plots on 15 April. By 18 April, stem rust had been found in McNair 701 plots at Castroville and Uvalde in south-central Texas and by 23 April, it was found in McNair 701 plots at McGregor in central Texas. Stem rust also was found on emmer, barley, and triticale used as windbreaks in watermelon fields in the Rio Grande Valley in southern Texas on 20–21 April. The infection was sparse on emmer and barley with severities from trace to 20%, whereas the triticale was highly susceptible with severities up to 80S. The persistent and widespread drought conditions limited the spread and development of stem rust in the state.

Louisiana. Trace amounts of wheat stem rust were found in plots of an unknown cultivar at Crowley in southern Louisiana on 22 April.